

**Amendments to the Specification:**

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 6, line 13, with the following amended paragraph:

As shown in Fig. 1, the preferred embodiment of the invention includes two carabiners 1 and 2, a hollow tube 3, and a durable, slightly elastic band 4. It is preferred that the carabiners 1 and 2 are made of lightweight aluminum with a spring loaded lever 12 in order to minimize weight. It is understood that the spring loaded lever 12 in the preferred embodiment is curved or bent. However, the lever 12 may also encompass a straight lever as well. In their normal static position, the carabiners 1 and 2 remain securely closed. To open the spring loaded lever 12 of the carabiner 1 or 2, a climber must apply pressure to it, causing the spring to retract, thereby opening the spring loaded lever 12. Additionally, in the preferred embodiment, the durable, slightly elastic band 4 is made of a material that becomes taut when stretched, such as nylon or Spectra\*. Moreover, the hollow tube 3 is preferably a lightweight rigid hollow pipe made of plastic, PVC, or carbon fiber. It must be rigid so as to hold the carabiners 1 and 2 in a rigid position ready to be opened and clipped to a fixed anchor in the rock wall, but light enough to be easily carried during a climb.

Please replace the Abstract with the following amended Abstract:

~~The invention is a~~ A rock-climbing device that safely aids climbers during a climb is described. The rock-climbing device has two carabiners attached to a band which runs through a hollow tube. The climber is able to manually extend the tube over his or her head to an out of reach fixed anchor in the wall of the rock and safely attach the carabiner at the end of the device. This allows the climber to then attach the bottom carabiner of the rock-

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climbing device to his or her harness via a rope on the harness. ~~Among other things, the~~ The  
rock-climbing device allows the climber to safely and easily advance up the rock.